

February 26, 1975

couple million dollars, we have increased it up to the present eight million. With the increase in the number of veterans involved from the Viet Nam war from the Korean war, and you still have World War 2 veterans around, some World War 1 veterans, even a couple of Spanish-American War veterans, who, when they have an emergency, can go through the service officer of the DAV, the World War 1 Veterans, the American Legion, the VFW, or the county service officer if they don't belong to any of those organizations and apply for emergency funds. I don't remember now, Senator Koch, the average amount, but I think the average payment was about \$190. At times they can get, for emergency purposes, \$1,000. This is strictly for an emergency and is in the form of a deferred bonus. Because of the fact that there are increased numbers eligible means that the income from the fund now is not going to be adequate to meet these annual expenses. That's why we support this and that's why I think it's important. It's a far better way to solve these problems than to go as most states have gone and pass out a bonus when the veteran returns. It's used up and then there's nothing for an emergency.

PRESIDENT: Senator Koch, by way of closing.

SENATOR KOCH: Just a couple of pertinent remarks I think, to reaffirm this body. Iowa gave their Viet Nam veterans a total of \$34.5 million and that was in terms of a bonus. That's far more money than we put into it totally since the initiation of the program in World War I. So I just want to remind you, I don't think that we're being foolhardy at all, we're merely providing for those veterans who have need.

PRESIDENT: The question is the advancement of LB 234A. Record your vote. Record the vote Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 33 ayes, 0 nays.

PRESIDENT: The bill is so advanced.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Kelly asked to be excused on Friday, February 28th at 10 o'clock.

Mr. President, Senator Cavanaugh asked unanimous consent to print some amendments in the Journal to LB 230.

PRESIDENT: If there are no objections it is so ordered.

CLERK: Mr. President, a new bill introduced by Senator Burbach, Speaker, at the request of the Governor. A bill for an act to make an appropriation to provide for the payment of salaries of members of the state legislature. And payment shall be made as provided by Chapter 68, Article 6, R.R.S. 43, and amendments thereto, for the period of July 1, 1975 to June 30, 1976.

Mr. President, Committee on Committees has set confirmation hearings.